

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 1, 2006

The Honorable Mitt Romney
Office of the Governor
Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Romney,

We write you today to urge you to reconsider your stance on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). In the past, Massachusetts has been a national environmental leader -- a position that we will quickly lose by sitting on the sidelines while other states move forward with sensible policies for a cleaner environment

Mainstream scientists are in unanimous agreement: global warming is happening, and human activity is quickening its pace. Scientists also agree that drastic measures are needed to stop this runaway problem. As the leader of the Commonwealth, you have two choices: be part of the solution, or be part of the problem. We hope you will reverse your earlier course of action and choose the former


Two recent events have highlighted the Commonwealth's regression on this vital issue. On August 15, seven states set out the model rules for RGGI, a landmark action to cut down climate-changing greenhouse gases. Your action to take Massachusetts out of the RGGI coalition at the last minute was, in our opinion, a step backward.

That step backward was further highlighted by California's decision last week to adopt strict controls on carbon dioxide emissions. Like RGGI, California's program seeks to aggressively cut greenhouse gases in the next 10 years.


The nation is at a crossroads in respect to climate change. Scientists warn that without action today, we face serious consequences tomorrow.

Luckily, there is still time, but it is waning. We urge you to follow the lead of the RGGI states and California, act immediately to cut greenhouse gas emission, and restore the Commonwealth's reputation as a national leader for a cleaner environment.

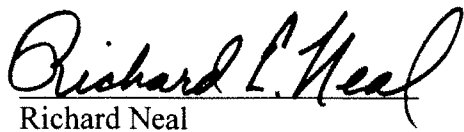
Sincerely,



Marty Meelhan
Member of Congress



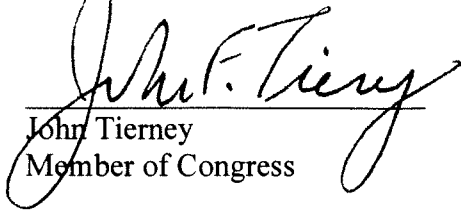
Jim McGovern
Member of Congress



Richard Neal
Member of Congress



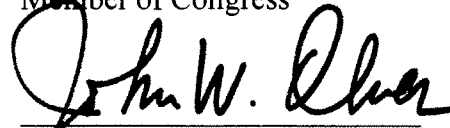
William Delahunt
Member of Congress



John Tierney
Member of Congress



Barney Frank
Member of Congress



John Olver
Member of Congress